



Dr. Paul Noe, Pastor
Rev. Brian Ayers, Associate Pastor/Director of Operations
Rev. Jason Fitzgerald, Associate Pastor/Minister of Youth
Rev. Charlie Crews, Minister of Senior Adults
Mrs. Missy Ferraro, Children's Coordinator
Mrs. Tina Lancaster, Office Manager/Financial Secretary
Ms. Gracie Kervin, Ministry Assistant

October 2026 Newsletter



"Hallelujah Sunday"



October 25, 2026

Maximum Participation in Sunday School, Worship, and Financial Giving



"Fall Festival"

Sunday, October 25, 2025

4:00-6:00 PM

Pavilion Building

**Games, Prizes, Food, Trick-or-Treat,
and Lots of Fun!**



Deacons Officers for 2026-2027

Junior Johnson-Chairman
Steve Lanham-Vice Chairman
Dick O'Driscoll- Secretary

Quarterly Business Meeting

Wednesday, October 21st
6:30PM

Deacon Ordination Service

For Jim Newman and Dave Redmond
Sunday Evening, October 4th
6:00PM

October 2026 NEWSLETTER

PASTOR PAUL'S PARAGRAPHS

Dear Members and Friends of Sweetwater Baptist Church:

Happy Fall Y'all! October is always an awesome month here at Sweetwater. Our annual **Fall Festival** will be on **Sunday, October 25th**, at the Pavilion Building from 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. We will be having lots of fun, food, and fellowship. This is one of our biggest outreach events of the year for our church. **Mrs. Missy Ferraro** always does an excellent job in organizing and directing the event. Please, invite someone to attend this year's festival with you.

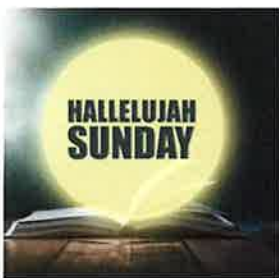
In addition to being Fall Festival, **October 25th**, will also be ***"Hallelujah Sunday"*** at Sweetwater. It will be a special day of maximum participation in Sunday School and worship and financial giving. Let me encourage you to prayerfully consider giving an extra monetary contribution on ***"Hallelujah Sunday"*** to help support the budget. The budget is the fuel that keeps all of the ministries and programs running at Sweetwater. Let's show our love and faithfulness to the Lord Jesus Christ and Sweetwater on ***"Hallelujah Sunday"*** through our presence and giving.

We are continuing to pray about our next Worship Pastor (Minister of Music). Our Personnel Committee has engaged with **Baptist Search Partners** to find the next person to serve in this very important capacity. **Rob Armstrong** is our consultant. He made an on-site visit to our church on Wednesday, September 9th, and met with me, our staff, the Personnel Committee, and the choir. His visit was very encouraging and productive. Please, pray for Baptist Search Partners as they actively search for our next Worship Pastor on our behalf.

Most of you are aware by now that **Mrs. Renee Hope** will retire as our Ministry Assistant on September 30th. We will certainly miss her. She has served Sweetwater in this capacity since July 2022. We are so grateful for her professionalism, faithfulness, and Christlikeness. ***"Thank you, Renee, for your service to the Sweetwater Baptist Church and the Lord Jesus Christ. We wish you the very best for the future. Enjoy your retirement."***

We also welcome **Gracie Kervin** as our new Ministry Assistant. Gracie will officially transition as our Ministry Assistant on October 1st. She holds a master's degree from Lander University in Business Administration. We are truly blessed to have such a qualified person to serve in this very important position. Gracie will help us to transition to our new Ministry Center (office complex) and lead us into the future. ***"Welcome Gracie!"***

Fall is such a beautiful time of the year. The changing of the leaves display God's handiwork. **Psalm 19:1** declares, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." (ESV) The proper response to the magnificent fall colors should be praise and gratitude unto the Lord. Let's enjoy this special season of the year.



Thank you for the privilege of serving you!

With a Pastor's Love,

Brother Paul
Philippians 1:3





Happy Retirement Renee!
Thanks for your service to the Sweetwater Baptist Church
and the Lord Jesus Christ.
We wish you the very best in all your future endeavors.



We welcome Gracie Kervin as our new Ministry Assistant
She will help us transition to our new Ministry Center (office complex)
and lead us into the future.



Our Ministry Center (office complex) continues to progress.
Thank you, Long Range Planning Committee/Building Committee,
for your Leadership and Hard Work!



Invest In World Missions!!

Help sponsor Garrett Delaughter

Hello, my name is Garrett Delaughter! I am a student at North Greenville University, and I'm majoring in Intercultural Studies. I have been called to serve on international missions! I plan to pursue international missions after I graduate. Right now, I am fundraising for three upcoming trips! Taiwan, the Middle East, and South Korea! I covet your prayers as these trips get closer. If the Lord leads you to give, you can mail it to my home address, 223 Palmetto Avenue, North Augusta, SC, 29841, or donate online through Venmo. Once again, thank you for all the support you've given over the past few years, and I hope to report on these trips soon.



venmo

Special Called Business Meeting!!

There will be a special called business meeting on Sunday evening, October 18th, for the purpose of hearing a recommendation from the Long Range Planning Committee on upgrading and renovating the Chapel (Old Sanctuary). This will include new flooring and seating. This renovation will make the Chapel more appealing to youth while still allowing us the ability to have weddings and funerals in the Chapel.



The Church Office has a new cell phone that can be resourced by church members to text, call or leave a voice message. The cell number is **1.803.634.3136**. The phone is monitored during regular office hours by office staff. The landline is still available to call the church, but the cell phone is another tool of communication that will be helpful during the transition to the new Administration Building. We look forward to hearing from you!

DEACON TRAINING EVENT

Sponsored by
Ridge & Aiken
Baptist Associations
803-648-0204

**OCTOBER
10, 2026**

Training Led by Dr. Tony Wolfe
Executive Director-Treasurer of SCBC
AUTHOR OF "A DEACON ON
PURPOSE: FOUR BIBLICAL
ESSENTIALS"

8:30AM - 11:30AM
MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP CENTER
164 MT. PLEASANT RD.
RIDGE SPRING, SC 29129

ABOUT THIS EVENT:

Dr. Wolfe will guide attendees through key biblical principles and practical insights essential for fulfilling the deacon's calling with purpose and effectiveness. This training is designed for both seasoned deacons and those just starting out in their calling.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This event is open to all deacons across the association — whether you are newly appointed or have served for many years. Come ready to be equipped, encouraged, and inspired. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required to reserve your spot.



**No Cost | Registration
Required**

Men's Bible Study

Monday Nights

6:30 PM

In Room B108



JOIN US FOR SWEETWATER BAPTIST CHURCH'S

FALL FESTIVAL

October 25 | 4PM - 6PM

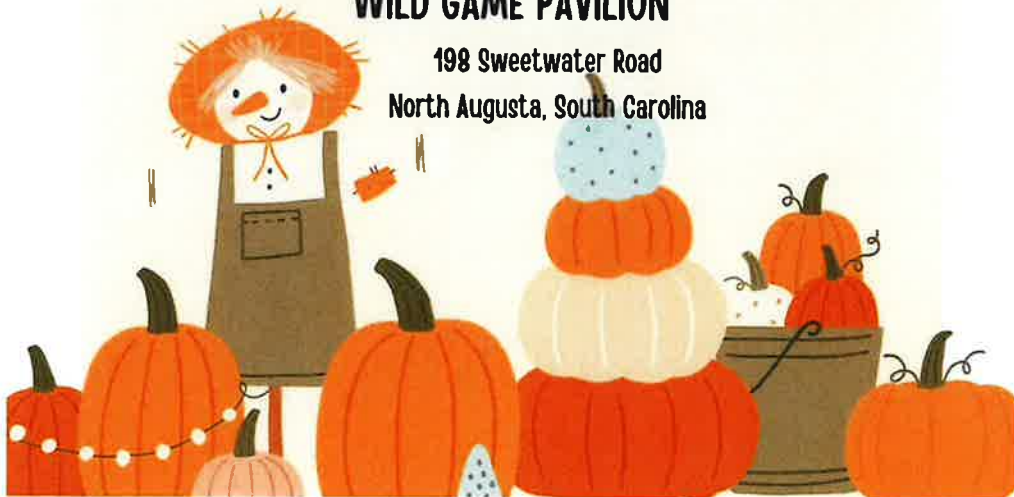
Admission is Free!

Games - Food - Hayrides
Trunk - or - Treat

SWEETWATER BAPTIST CHURCH

WILD GAME PAVILION

198 Sweetwater Road
North Augusta, South Carolina



SENIOR ADULT NEWS

"I will sing of Your strength, and will joyfully proclaim Your faithful love in the morning."

Psalm 59:16 (HCSB)

Are you a morning person? When I was younger, I was not a morning person, but as I've gotten older, I find myself getting up earlier. There is something special about the morning, perhaps it is realizing that each new day is a blessing from God; and that *"His mercies are new every morning!"* (Lam. 3:23). When I get up early, and I'm prepared to face the day, I realize all over again the absolute wonder and awe of who God is! I can't help but worship Him with thoughts from His Word.

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

Psalm 30:5 NKJV

"Each morning I will sing with joy about Your unfailing love."

Psalm 59:16 (NLT)

I also find myself worshipping God with phrases of hymns and songs like:

"Morning by morning new mercies I see"

("Great Is Thy Faithfulness", by Thomas Chisolm)

"Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee"

("Holy, Holy, Holy", by Reginal Heber)

"The sun comes up its a new day dawning, it's time to sing your praise again"

("10,000 Reasons", by Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin)

Regardless of whether you're a 'morning person' or not. I encourage you to find some time to spend alone with God in personal, private worship. It will make you day!

Your Team-Mate In Christ

Charlie

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apple Pick-In' Trip

Tuesday, October 6
(Leaving the church at 8 AM)



Joyous Seniors

Friday, October 16
11:45 AM

Birthday Bash

Thursday, October 22
2:00 PM





The Church Has Never Been Meant to Stay Inside Its Walls.

One of the greatest joys this fall has been watching our students begin to understand that following Jesus isn't something we do only when we gather on Sundays and Wednesdays. It's a way of life.

As school is back in full swing, we're seeing students lead FCA huddles, share God's Word with their peers, serve on their campuses, and represent Christ in places many adults will never have the opportunity to go. At the same time, our adult leaders are faithfully showing up at football games, volleyball matches, swim meets, band performances, and other school events-not simply to cheer students on, but to remind them they are loved, supported, and never alone. That's what the Church looks like.

This fall, we've also completed our **Walk With Me** series and have begun an expository journey through the **Gospel of John**. Our prayer is that students won't simply know more about Jesus but will come to know Him more deeply by studying His life and His words one passage at a time. On Wednesday nights, those lessons continue around discussion tables as students ask questions, wrestle with Scripture, and encourage one another to put God's Word into practice.

On Sunday mornings, our students continue walking through **Lines**, now entering Quarter 3 of this year-long journey through the historical events recorded in Scripture. Rather than seeing the Bible as disconnected accounts they're learning to see God's unified plan of redemption unfolding from Genesis to Revelation-all pointing to Jesus Christ.

We're also thankful to see our mentorship ministry beginning to take shape. God designed the Christian life to be lived in relationship, and we're praying these mentoring relationships will produce disciples who one day make disciples of their own.

Church family, thank you for believing in the younger generation. Please continue praying that they would know Jesus deeply, live boldly for Him every day, and lead others to Christ. Because the mission field isn't waiting for them someday.

The mission field is here.

"As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." - **John 20:21**

Know Jesus. Live Bold. Lead Others.

Jason Fitzgerald, Youth Pastor
Sweetwater Baptist Church
jfitzgerald@sweetwaterbc.church



Introducing The Well

After months of prayer, planning, conversation, and preparation, **The Well officially launched on September 8**, and we are already seeing God do something special among our young adults.

The Well is Sweetwater's ministry for **young adults ages 18-29**. That includes college students, young professionals, those entering the workforce, married couples, singles, engaged couples, and those navigating all the transitions that come with this unique season of life.

And one thing is becoming very clear: **this generation is hungry**.

They are hungry for truth. Hungry for genuine relationships. Hungry for a place to belong. Hungry to grow in their faith. And most importantly, hungry to know Jesus more deeply.

Since launching, we have seen steady growth and tremendous excitement. Young adults are inviting friends, building relationships, opening the Word together, asking meaningful questions, and beginning to form the kind of biblical community that we have prayed would develop.

The heart of The Well is more than simply providing another church gathering. We want to create a place where young adults can **know Jesus, grow together, serve faithfully, and live on mission wherever God has placed them**.

Each week, we gather around Scripture, spend time in fellowship, and create space for real conversations about faith and life. Once a month, we also have an **Outings Night**, which may include a game night, a meal together, or another activity away from our normal gathering. These nights have become an important part of building relationships and strengthening community beyond the walls of a meeting room.

One of the most encouraging things we are already seeing is that people are not simply attending- **they are bringing others with them**. Friendships are developing. Community is forming. And God is giving us opportunities to reach young adults who are looking for a place to connect and belong.

For our church family, we want you to know that The Well is not simply another program on the calendar. It is an opportunity for Sweetwater Baptist Church to invest in an age group that is making major decisions about faith, relationships, marriage, careers, family, and the direction of their lives.

Please pray that The Well will continue to be a place where young adults encounter Christ, become rooted in His Word, build Christ-centered relationships, discover how God has gifted them to serve, and boldly carry the Gospel into their workplaces, schools, homes, and communities.

God is working, the excitement is growing, and we believe this is only the beginning.

The Well is open-and we cannot wait to see what God continues to do.



KIDZ Ministry CORNER



Dear Church Family,

It's time to start planning your decorations for Trunk or Treat again this year! Our annual Fall Festival is taking place on the afternoon of Sunday, October 25, 2026, from 4 to 6 PM. There will be free food, games, Trunk or Treat, and a hayride. Please check out the Volunteer Sign Up book to see what opportunities there are for you to help share God's love during this fun event. I am looking forward to having you join us for this fun time of fellowship with our community!

Children ages three years old through fifth grade students are invited to join us each Sunday evening for Mission Kidz. We meet each Sunday night in the Family Life Center to learn about missions around the world and work on mission projects. On the evening of October 11, the Mission Kidz will be enjoying a spaghetti dinner as we learn about how missionaries in Italy help people learn about God's promises. Because of Fall Break, we will not be meeting the first Sunday night in October.

If you love children, please consider volunteering to help out in our nursery. Children are the future of our church and need to have God's love shared with them from the very start of their lives. If interested, please reach out to me for more information.

Love,

"Miss" Missy Ferraro

October 2026

Sunday, October 4, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Maribeth Weikle Toddlers - Renee Stewart	9:45 AM Cindy O'Driscoll	11:00 AM Babies - Stacie Griffin & Katie Fitzgerald Toddlers - Hannah McClure & Barbara Schmidt	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, October 11, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Brenda West Toddlers - Jada and Chandler Dunn	9:45 AM Amy Clark	11:00 AM Babies - Zack and Katie Canady Toddlers - Christie Amerson and Irina Taylor	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, October 18, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Taylor and Jordan Lyons Toddlers - Robin Lanham	9:45 AM Nancy Clark	11:00 AM Babies - Elizabeth Rabb and Katie Johnson Toddlers - Cassidy and Cameron Farrer	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood
Sunday, October 25, 2026			
8:30 AM Babies - Lori Preston Toddlers - Tyler and Charity Lyons	9:45 AM Amy Clark	11:00 AM Babies - Ginny and Avery Key Toddlers - Amy and Terry Jarvis	6:00 PM Clydie Blackwood

Nursery is also offered on Wednesday evenings during the service and during adult choir practice.

Thank you so much for choosing to share God's love with the youngest children.

Please contact Missy at (803)-270-4055 if you are unable to be in the nursery on your assigned day.

SERVICE PERSONS OF THE MONTH



Lt. Col Mark O'Driscoll, USMC
Stationed at Virginia Beach, VA
Son of Dick & Cindy O'Driscoll



Lt. Col Jamie Wilmoth, USAF
Stationed at Fort Sumter, SC
Son of Jim & Shirley Wilmoth

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, October 18th
4:00 PM
WC106

FINANCE MEETING

Wednesday, October 14th
Immediately following the
Midweek Service in Room WC 105

HISTORY ROOM

Open Wednesday, Oct 7th, 5pm to 6pm
& Sunday, Oct 18th, 4:30pm to 5:30pm

SPECIAL CALLED BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, October 18th at 6:00 PM
in the Worship Center

QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, October 21st at 6:30 PM
in the Worship Center

OCTOBER DEACON SCHEDULE

4	(8:30AM) Phillip Dickert	(11:00AM) Chris Burns
11	(8:30AM) Roy Williams	(11:00AM) Bill Little
18	(8:30 AM) Ronnie Berry	(11:00AM) Jim Newman
25	(8:30 AM) David Harley	(11:00AM) Dave Redmond

CMC (LABELS) MEETING

Wednesday, Oct 14th, 5:30pm to 6:30pm
Chapel Room 103

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Three ways to build a shoebox(es):

1. Take a box(es) and purchase items suggested on the label and fill the box(es) donate \$10 shipping per box.
2. Give money to Sweetwater BC and Designate for OCC shoeboxes. We will shop for you.
3. Go to Operation Christmas Child online. Look for **Sweetwater BC NA**. Build a shoebox online. They will buy and ship all for \$30.

Our overall goal this year is 550 Boxes. Happy Shopping!!



Women's Ministry News

The Neely Group

October 14, 2026
10:00AM Fellowship Hall
Meets the second Wednesday
of every month for service
projects and fellowship!

VINTAGE GARDENS BINGO

OCTOBER 10, 2026



TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CONTACT
JULIE LITTLE!

VINTAGE GARDENS BLESSING BAGS



Each year we provide Christmas
blessings to 80 families at Vintage
Gardens. Each bag costs
approximately \$60 to make. Any
donation amount is welcome!



November



November 7, 2026
10:00 AM
Fellowship Hall
\$25.00/Person

Faith Family Fellowship Churchwide Lunch

Sunday, November 29, 2026
Following 10:30
Combined Worship Service
Gym
\$5.00/Person



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAYS (SEPTEMBER 27; OCTOBER 4, 11, 18, 25)

Early Worship Service - 8:30AM (Worship Center)

Sunday School - 9:45AM

Morning Worship Service - 11:00AM (Worship Center)

Children's Worship - 11:00AM (WC101)

Youth Bible Study - 5:30-7:00PM (C202) (Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 25th)

Mission Kidz - 6:00-7:00PM (FH) (OCT. 4th No Mission Kidz) (Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 25th)

Evening Worship Service - 6:00PM (Worship Center) (Fall Festival on Sunday, Oct. 25th)

MONDAYS (SEPTEMBER 28; OCTOBER 5, 12, 19, 26)

Food Pantry and Clothes Closet - 1:00-2:00PM (Donations)

Food Pantry (By Appointment) - 2:00PM

Clothes Closet - 2:00-4:00PM (Shopping)

Men's Bible Study - 6:30PM (B108)

WEDNESDAYS (SEPTEMBER 30; OCTOBER 6, 13, 20, 27)

Faith & Fun (Youth) - 6:00-7:15PM (Gym)

Kidz Choir - 6:00PM-7:15PM (WC102)

Midweek Service - 6:30PM (Worship Center)

Celebration Choir Rehearsal - 7:20PM

FRIDAYS (OCTOBER 2, 9, 16, 23, 30)

Prayer - 6:00AM (Chapel)

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27TH - OCTOBER 3RD

SEPTEMBER 28th - Men's Bible Study - 6:30PM (B108)

SEPTEMBER 28th - Norma Pate Bible Study - 6:30PM (FH)

SEPTEMBER 29th - The Well - 6:30PM (FH)

WEEK OF OCTOBER 4TH - OCTOBER 10TH

OCTOBER 4th-Deacon Ordination Service 6:00PM (WC)

OCTOBER 6th - Sr. Adult Apple Pickin' Trip (RSVP)

OCTOBER 6th - The Well - 6:30PM (FH)

OCTOBER 7th - History Room is open 5:00PM-6:00PM

OCTOBER 10th-Deacon Training Event (Mt Pleasant Baptist)

WEEK OF OCTOBER 11TH - OCTOBER 17TH

OCTOBER 12th - Norma Pate Bible Study - 6:30PM (FH)

OCTOBER 13th - The Well - 6:30PM

OCTOBER 14th - Neely WMU Meeting - 10:00AM-12:00PM (FH)

OCTOBER 14th - CMC Meeting (Scripture Labels) - 5:30PM-6:30PM (Chapel 103)

OCTOBER 14th - Finance Meeting (immediately following Midweek Service) (WC105)

OCTOBER 15th - Deadline to provide Ministry Assistant with November Newsletter Input

OCTOBER 16th - Joyous Seniors Luncheon - 11:45AM-1:00PM (FLC) (RSVP requested)

OCTOBER 17th - Technicolor Women (Ticketed Event)

WEEK OF OCTOBER 18TH - OCTOBER 24TH

OCTOBER 18th - Deacons Meeting - 4:00PM (WC106)

OCTOBER 18th - History Room is open 4:30PM-5:30PM

OCTOBER 18th - Special Called Business Meeting-6:00 (WC)

OCTOBER 20th - The Well - 6:30PM (FH)

OCTOBER 21st - Quarterly Business Meeting - 6:30PM (Sanctuary)

OCTOBER 22nd - Seniors Birthday Bash (October Birthdays)-2:00PM RSVP

OCTOBER 24th - Choir Rehearsal - 9:30AM (Sanctuary)

WEEK OF OCTOBER 25TH - OCTOBER 31ST

OCTOBER 25th - "Hallelujah Sunday" Maximum Participation in Sunday School, Worship and Giving

OCTOBER 25th - FALL FESTIVAL - 4:00PM-6:00PM (Pavillion Building)

OCTOBER 26th - Norma Pate Bible Study - 6:30PM (FH)

OCTOBER 27th - The Well - 6:30PM